pantographs continue to be in service. ABB have since carried out modification of 9 imported pantographs which are on service trials and the performance is being monitored.

Government Directives for Defective Telephones

3567. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any directives has been issued by the Government in regard to set the defective telephones right within two days after receipt of complaints and if the defect is not removed in a week, then the rent for such period should not be charged from the subscribers; and

(b) if so, details of such telephones in Jammu of which the defect have not been removed for more than a week during the period of January 1997 to June 1997?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA) : (a) Yes Sir, as per existing instructions faulty telephones should be set right within 40 hours of the complaints.

Rebate in rentals is admissible when local telephone services remain interrupted/suspended continuously for 7 days or more due to departmental reasons.

(b) Month-wise details of telephones in Jammu which remained faulty for more than 7 days during Jan'97 to June'97 are given as below:-

Month	No. of telephones remained faulty for more than 7 days
January 97	201
February 97	153
March 97	492
April 97	369
May 97	171
June 97	147
Total	1533

Construction of Unauthorised Stalls

3568. DR. ASIM BALA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware that unauthorised stalls are constructed on the level-crossings of the local stations in Howrah and Sealdah Divisions of Eastern Railway which is the restricted zone for constructing any structure;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these structures are obstructing the vicinity and thus causing accidents; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government in this regard to avoid accidents?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are such constructions mainly at some of the level crossings adjacent to suburban stations in Sealdah and Howrah Divisions of Eastern Railway.

(c) No accident occurred in Sealdah and Howrah Divisions of Eastern Railway due to obstruction by unauthorised construction at level crossings.

(d) Action to remove the unauthorised structures is taken under Public premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act, 1971 which is a continuous process.

Extension of Niambur-Shoranur Push Pull Train

3569. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any representation regarding the extension of the Nilambur-Shoranur Push Pull train from Shoranur upto Palghat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) Some representations have been received in this regard. However there is no proposal at present to extend Nilambur-Shoranur DMU train upto Palghat due to certain operational constraints.

Coverage of Swaran Jayanti Rathyatra

3570. CHAUDHARY RAMCHANDRA BENDA :
SHRI R.L.P. VERMA :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any coverage to Shri L.K. Advani's Swaran Jayanti Rathyatra has been telecast and broadcast;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, whether the Government adopts the same policy about the activities of other political parties; and

(d) if so, the details of the policy being followed by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY) : (a) Yes, Sir. Both All India Radio and Doordarshan adequately covered the Swaran Jayanti Rathayatra undertaken by the B.J.P. President, Shri L.K. Advani in their national as well as regional bulletins.

(b) Such information is not kept centrally in a compiled form.

(c) and (d) the activities of different political parties are covered by All India Radio and Doordarshan in their news bulletins based on the news worthiness.

N.T.P.C.

3571. SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the process of rehabilitation of villagers in the Singrauli area of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) project has been found to be incomplete even when it was started after a decade; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b). The rehabilitation and resettlement of the villagers affected by thermal power projects of National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) in Singrauli area viz., Singrauli, Vindhyachal and Rihand Super Thermal Power projects has been completed except in case of the ash dyke areas which are being developed in phases depending upon the project requirements. The details are as follows :-

Singrauli Super Thermal Power Project

Rehabilitation and resettlement of the affected people has been completed. A new ash disposal site will be required after the existing pond is filled up. Land for this has been identified and compensation paid to the villagers.

Vindhyachal Super Thermal Power Project Stage-I

Resettlement and rehabilitation of the affected villagers has been completed except in the ash dyke area where 31 people, still occupying the land, are being persuaded to shift.

Vindhyachal Super Thermal Power Project Stage-II

Land was acquired in 1985-88 and compensation paid to the villagers in 1985-88. The ash dyke portion was not got vacated as the land was not immediately required. At present, the construction work is in progress and the land for ash dyke is required. Most of the villagers have now shifted and resettled. The remaining villagers are being persuaded to vacate the area and will be rehabilitated and resettled as per the company's policy.

Rihand Super Thermal Power Project, Stage-I

Land was acquired in 1982-89 and was divided into two parts. One part comprised the main plant and township while the other comprised ash dyke area. The villagers affected by the setting up of the main plant and township were resettled and rehabilitated.

The ash dyke area was predominantly forest land and there was delay in getting the forest clearance. Therefore, alternate area in Mithini village was acquired by NTPC. Almost all the villagers have been resettled. Construction work in the ash dyke area is in progress.

[Translation]

Handing over Anpara Power Station

3572. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any agreement has been signed to hand over Anpara Power Station of Uttar Pradesh to Hundai Heavy Industries Limited; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Union Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. The main power producing unit at Anpara, consisting of 3x210 MW Anpara 'A' and 2x500 MW Anpara 'B' are being operated by U.P. State Electricity Board. However, the 2x500 MW Anpara 'C' thermal power project, an extension of Anpara 'A' and 'B' in the Sonebhadra district of Uttar Pradesh, has been decided to be implemented by the private sector by Government of Uttar Pradesh. It is now to be built, owned and operated by M/s. Hyundai Heavy Industries Ltd., South Korea, which was selected through international competitive bidding. The letter of intent was issued by Government of Uttar Pradesh on 10.7.1996 and Memorandum of Understanding was signed on 14.8.1996 between Government of Uttar Pradesh and M/s. Hyundai Heavy Industries. The action of Government of Uttar Pradesh to implement the Anpara 'C' thermal power project by M/s. Hyundai Heavy Industries Ltd. is in line with the private power policy of Government of India.

Study on Expenses of Irrigation

3573. SHRI RAJESH RANJAN ALIAS PAPPU YADAV: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the comparative study on expenses of irrigation by diesel run pump sets and power pump sets used by farmers has been carried out;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government to meet the power shortage in Bihar on priority basis?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Study carried out by using different pumping system for the same lift conditions revealed that the cost of pumping per 100 cubic meter of water was higher for the diesel pump as compared to electric pump.